



National Fire Plan

Managing the Impact of Wildfires on the Communities and the Environment

Fire Preparedness and Facilities

Preparedness Resources

Preparedness funds provide the Department of the Interior and the USDA Forest Service with the capability to prevent, detect, and perform initial attack on wildland fires. Through the preparedness program, the Interior and the Forest Service assist other Federal agencies and States with fire training programs, planning assistance, shared equipment use contracts, and support interagency fire coordination centers.

The National Fire Plan provides funding for agencies to meet their full firefighting capability. Additional equipment purchases may be needed for all agencies to operate at their full capacity and ensure the optimal level of readiness for wildland firefighting. Some planned purchases could not be completed in FY2001, due to lack of availability from the manufacturers.

Each agency will continue workforce development strategies to bring national fire readiness capacity to its highest level. Additionally, the agencies will continue to collaborate to provide optimal placement of firefighting crews and equipment, and each agency will continue to hire additional entry-level fire management personnel needed to sustain a viable firefighting workforce into the future.

Estimated Preparedness Resources for FY 2002

Department of the Interior and USDA Forest Service			
	DOI	USDA/FS	Total
Firefighting Protection Capability	0	14,940	14,940
Firefighters **	4,864	10,812	15,676
Engines	752	1,017	1,769
Prevention Units	84	509	593
Forest Helicopters	53	96	149
Water/Foam Tenders	61	62	123
Dozers	51	111	162
Tractor/P lws	17	82	99
Boats	3	8	11
Type I C rews	22	65	87
Sm oke jum pers	156	277	433
A ir tankers	33	44	77
Natinal Helicopters	3	277	280
O ther Aircraft	30	0	30

**USDA/FS Firefighters count equals number in the region plus HC and Smokejumper number in the region.

**DOI Firefighters count includes Initial Attack Firefighters, Engine Crews, Ground Crews, and Helitack Crews.

Facilities

The increases in firefighting personnel and equipment in the Federal wildland firefighting agencies created an urgent need to improve and construct fire related facilities in order to ensure successful implementation of the National Fire Plan. The construction of fire facilities requires about a two to three-year time period for planning, design and construction. Therefore, some of the larger projects started in FY2001 may extend into FY2002 and beyond. The most common facilities identified for maintenance and construction are fire-crew housing, engine stations, helitack bases and Airtanker bases. Design teams are working to develop national standards for these facility types.

Agency	FY2000	FY2001	FY2002
USDA/FS	\$0	\$43,903	\$20,376
DOI	\$9,270	\$30,000	\$19,774
Total	\$9,270	\$73,903	\$40,150